

PRESS RELEASE

Congressman John Conyers, Jr.

**Fourteenth District, Michigan
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
Dean, Congressional Black Caucus**

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**CONTACT:
Dena Graziano: (202) 226-6888**

CONYERS DENOUNCES DEATH THREATS AGAINST REP. BARBARA LEE

Representative Barbara Lee has received death threats because she voted against H.J. Res. 64, which authorized the use of military force against those responsible for the September 11 terrorist attacks. Representative John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI) issued the following statement in response:

“On September 14, the House of Representatives voted to authorize the use of military force against those responsible for the vile and heinous terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Representative Barbara Lee voted against this Resolution, and she has received death threats as a result. As Members of Congress, we are elected to follow our conscience and cast our votes accordingly. Representative Lee did this, and we must respect her right to vote in the manner she believes is best for her constituents and our country.

“I am disappointed that the anger and revulsion all of us rightfully feel towards the terrorists would be misdirected towards a Member of Congress in such a violent and ugly fashion. Likewise, recent days have seen a spate of hate crimes against Muslims, Arab Americans, and South Asian Americans. We must not allow the terrorists to divide us from within and destroy our national unity, which is so badly needed right now.”

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